

DISCUSSION OF EXAMINER'S OFFICE ACTION

Claims 1-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. The addition of the compounds, "ammonium hydrogen fluoride" and "potassium bihydrogen difluoride" into the specification at page 8 and into the claims constitutes new matter.

These terms were not part of the original disclosure. Deletion of the new matter from the specification and claims is required.

Applicants' Response

The claims were amended to remove the language objected to by the Examiner. Instead, "ammonium bifluoride" was substituted for "ammonium hydrogen difluoride" and "potassium bifluoride" was substituted for "bihydrogen difluoride".

The terms "ammonium bifluoride" and "potassium bifluoride" were originally found in the specification at page 8, lines 21-27. The substituted terms have been deleted from the specification and the specification was amended to re-insert the original terms. Although the terms found in the original specification are not as descriptive as "ammonium hydrogen difluoride" and "potassium bihydrogen difluoride", Applicants submit that their meaning is clear to one of ordinary skill in the art related to foundry binders and that it is clear that these compounds contain a hydrogen atom bonded directly to the fluorine atom, as do the others defined in the Markush group.¹

¹ See pages 65 and 951 of Hawley's Condensed Chemical Dictionary, 11th edition, which are enclosed.

Conclusion

Applicants submit that the application is now in condition for allowance and respectfully request a notice to this effect. If the Examiner believes further explanation of Applicants' position is needed, Applicants' attorney will discuss this matter over the telephone or visit the Examiner personally if this may be useful.

Respectfully submitted,



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